



## Ensuring A Sparkling Good (And Safe) Time

Forty-five of the 50 U.S. states and the District of Columbia allow legal “consumer” fireworks for the Fourth of July. The definition of consumer fireworks varies from state to state, but can include everything from cone fountains to roman candles to multiple tube “cake” devices to sparklers. Before using fireworks, find out what’s legal in your state by checking out [www.americanpyro.com](http://www.americanpyro.com) and clicking on “state laws.”

If your state does allow fireworks, remember that even legal fireworks can cause injury if they’re not used properly. Consider the following tips when planning your Independence Day fireworks fun:

- Store fireworks in a cool, dry place
- Always read and follow the directions on the label
- Always have an adult present when handling fireworks
- Never give fireworks to young children, even sparklers!
- Use fireworks outdoors in a safe, non-wooden area
- Having a working garden hose or bucket of water handy
- Keep everyone a safe distance away from fireworks
- Light only one firework at a time
- Never re-ignite a firework that doesn’t light the first time or one that has finished its display
- Never carry fireworks in your pocket
- Don’t throw fireworks at another person
- Keep pets indoors and away from fireworks
- Never shoot fireworks in metal or glass containers
- Keep spectators at a safe distance
- Always wear safety glasses when igniting fireworks

Source: American Pyrotechnics Association, [www.americanpyro.com](http://www.americanpyro.com)